

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MAPUTO 01017 111006Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
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O 110800Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7282
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T MAPUTO 1017

EXDIS HANDLE AS NODIS

PRETORIA PASS LOW

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PDEV, PINT, MZ, RH, UK
SUBJECT: UK/US MESSAGE TO ZANU/MUGABE ON ALL PARTIES MEETING

REF: (A) STATE 202027; (B) PRETORIA 4542

1. US/UK CHARGES SPOKE EVENING AUGUST 10 TO TEKERE IN MUGABE'S ABSENCE (PROBABLY IN THE CAMPS) AND PRESENTED THE MESSAGE AS INSTRUCTED REFTEL A. TEKERE UNDERTOOK TO CONVEY THIS IMMEDIATELY TO MUGABE. HIS INITIAL REACTION WAS THAT THE MESSAGE WOULD NOT BE A SURPRISE TO MUGABE. HE STATED THAT WE COULD WORK ON THE REASONABLE ASSUMPTION THAT PLACE AND DATE WERE ACCEPTABLE. BUT HE KNEW THAT THERE WAS A COMMITMENT TO HOLD A PF COORDINATION MEETING IN LUSAKA, BEGINNING ON AUGUST 16 AND LIKELY TO END ON AUGUST 19. TEKERE THOUGHT THAT THIS MIGHT NOT ALLOW ENOUGH TIME TO PREPARE FOR THE ALL PARTIES MEETING AND THE LATTER MIGHT HAVE TO BE PUT BACK TWO DAYS. HE STRESSED THAT HE SPOKE IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY KNOWLEDGE ABOUT CONSULTATION BETWEEN NKOMO AND MUGABE ON THIS.

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2. TEKERE ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION ABOUT WHETHER DR. OWEN AND MR. VANCE WOULD BE ATTENDING. HE SAID THERE WAS DEFINITELY NO QUESTION OF THE PF PRESIDENTS GOING TO A MEETING WITH ANYONE AT A LOWER LEVEL. THIS WAS TO BE A MEETING OF PRINCIPALS. WE SAID THAT WE WOULD SEEK THIS CLARIFICATION.

3. HE THEN COMPLAINED AGAIN ABOUT PUBLICITY. NEWS OF THE MEETING

HAD BEEN LEAKED ON THE BBC AND ELSEWHERE, INDICATING THAT DR. OWEN WAS READY TO FLY TO SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THAT THE MEETING WOULD BE HELD WITHIN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS. HE REMINDED US THAT MUGABE HAD HONORED THE COMMITMENT TO NO PUBLICITY GIVEN TO GRAHAM AND LOW AND HAD ENVISAGED THAT THE MEETING WOULD ONLY BE ANNOUNCED AFTER IT HAD OCCURRED. ZANU HAD CLEAR MEMORIES OF WHAT HAD HAPPENED WITH THE PRESS IN DAR ES SALAAM. WE SAID THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO DELIBERATE LEAK FROM US.

4. TEKERE SAID THAT MUGABE WOULD PROBABLY WISH TO BRING TWO OR THREE EXTRA PERSONS INCLUDING SECRETARIAL PERSONNEL IN ADDITION TO DEPUTIES. HE THOUGHT THAT THIS WOULD STILL KEEP THE MEETING QUOTE CLOSED ENOUGH UNQUOTE.

5. FINALLY HE ASKED IF THE SALISBURY PARTIES WOULD ATTEND IN FULL, SAYING THAT AS THE PF PROPOSED TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE BRITISH THIS WAS QUOTE NOT A PREOCCUPATION BUT OF INCIDENTAL INTEREST UNQUOTE. WE REPEATED THE TERMS OF THE MESSAGE ON THIS POINT.

6. WE TOLD TEKERE THAT WE WERE PROPOSING TO KEEP VIEIRA INFORMED. WE AGREED TO STAY IN TOUCH.

7. THIS CABLE HAS BEEN COORDINATED WITH UK CHARGE.
MCGUIRE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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